SHEILA M. FINLAYSON

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CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHY

Sheila M. Finlayson is the senior member on the Annapolis City Council. She serves as chairperson of the Rules and City Government Committee and as a member of the Economic Matters and the Finance Committees. She is the liaison to the Education Commission. Sheila has worked very closely with the Annapolis Police Department, the Annapolis Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management.

Sheila has developed a number of initiatives which includes Light Up the City for Safety, asking residents to turn on their outdoor lights from dusk until dawn, and the Annapolis Youth Summer Jobs Program, employing hundreds of City youth each year.

Recently, Sheila founded the Annapolis Career Academy, a nonprofit geared toward matching youth with skills based training and securing permanent jobs in the trade industry. These highly paid positions will give youth an opportunity to have a career in a lucrative profession.

Sheila attended Morgan State University, earning a BS in English, and the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, earning an MS in Cultural Foundations. She taught English and public speaking in the Anne Arundel County Public Schools for 35 years, before retiring.

Sheila was elected President of the Teachers Association of Anne Arundel County and successfully advocated for the professional, economic, human and civil rights interests of educators. For six years she advocated for national education issues as the East Regional Director for the National Counsel of Urban Education Associations.

Sheila is an education consultant, a recognized public speaker. a trainer and provider of professional development. Sheila is a trained political organizer, managing numerous campaigns, most notably the campaign for Aris T. Allen. She lead the group responsible for naming Aris T Allen Blvd and building the monument.

Sheila served for more than twelve years on the Bates Development Committee which was responsible for the development of the Bates Heritage Park.